

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 RSC-01 /017 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:RAMCGUIRE:JW

APPROVED BY AF/W:JLLOUGHRAN

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R 152015Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GH

SUBJECT: TEXT OF AMBASSADOR BLACK'S REMARKS FOR
PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

1. BEGIN TEXT. YOUR EXCELLENCY, I AM DEEPLY HONORED TO PRESENT THE LETTERS BY WHICH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, GERALD R. FORD, ACCREDITS ME AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA AND RECALLS MY DISTINGUISHED PREDECESSOR, AMBASSADOR FRED L. HADSEL.
 2. I EXTEND TO YOU, AND THROUGH YOU, TO THE PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA THE WARMEST GREETINGS OF PRESIDENT FORD AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES. PRESIDENT FORD HAD THE PLEASURE OF WELCOMING AMBASSADOR QUARM AS ONE OF THE FIRST ENVOYS TO PRESENT CREDENTIALS TO HIM, AND I HAVE BENEFITTED FROM MY MEETINGS WITH YOUR DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE TO MY COUNTRY.
 3. WE IN THE UNITED STATES HAVE LONG FELT A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PEOPLE OF GHANA. MANY OF OUR CITIZENS TRACE THEIR ANCESTRY TO THIS PART OF AFRICA, AND THEIR BACKGROUND HAS GREATLY ENRICHED THE CULTURE -- THE ARTS, MUSIC AND HISTORY -- OF THE UNITED STATES. WE RECOGNIZE THAT
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GHANA IS A LEADER IN THE STRUGGLE FOR POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE

AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. I AM PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO BE ACCREDITED TO A NATION WITH SUCH AN ILLUSTRIOUS NAME, A PROUD HISTORY, AND AN ENERGETIC PEOPLE COMMITTED TO GROWTH THROUGH SELF-HELP AND COOPERATION WITH FRIENDS ABROAD.

4. I WANT TO COMMEND THE EFFORTS OF THE NATIONAL REDEMPTION COUNCIL AND PEOPLE OF GHANA IN SUCH ENDEAVORS AS OPERATION FEED YOURSELF. WE ALSO SHARE WITH GHANA THE DESIRE TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF OUR CITIZENS IN MANY WAYS -- IN NUTRITION, IN EDUCATION, IN HEALTH, AND IN A BETTER ENVIRONMENT. SUCH EFFORTS ASSIST IN CREATING A PEACEFUL AND PROSPEROUS WORLD FOR ALL. OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE DEDICATED THEIR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVING THESE GOALS. LET ME SAY THAT I HAVE LONG HAD A SERIOUS INTEREST IN THE ENVIRONMENT AND IN THE MANY ASPECTS OF NUTRITION. I HAVE REPRESENTED THE UNITED STATES IN INTERNATIONAL FORA WHERE SIGNIFICANT DECISIONS WERE MADE ON THESE ISSUES, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING THESE SUBJECTS WITH GHANAIS.

5. WE HAVE BEEN PLEASED TO WORK WITH GHANAIS IN THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF GHANA. OUR AID PROGRAM HAS PROVIDED ASSISTANCE IN MANY AREAS AND HAS BEEN A MEANS OF SHARING TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS. GHANA WAS THE FIRST STATE TO WELCOME THE PEACE CORPS, AND WE NOW HAVE 250 VOLUNTEERS WORKING SHOULDER TO SHOULDER WITH GHANAIS. PRIVATE AMERICAN COMPANIES HAVE MADE, AND CONTINUE TO MAKE, SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENTS IN GHANA'S INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL SECTORS. OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE AN ACTIVE COMMERCIAL RELATIONSHIP -- IN 1973 ALMOST A FIFTH OF GHANA'S COCOA BEAN EXPORTS WENT TO THE UNITED STATES.

6. AMERICANS AND GHANAIS HAVE COME TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER THROUGH A VARIETY OF EXCHANGES, BOTH OFFICIALLY SPONSORED AND PRIVATE, AND THROUGH TOURISM AND VOLUNTARY GROUP VISITS. I AM DELIGHTED THAT SO MANY GHANAIS HAVE STUDIED IN THE UNITED STATES, AND THE QUALITY OF YOUR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS HAS ATTRACTED MANY AMERICANS. IT

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IS THESE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS, OFTEN THE MOST PROFOUND AND LONGLASTING, WHICH HAVE CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

7. I WANT TO ASSURE YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN, OF MY INTENTION TO DO ALL I CAN TO BUILD UPON AND STRENGTHEN EVERY FORM OF COOPERATION -- DIPLOMATIC, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND INTELLECTUAL -- BETWEEN GHANA AND THE UNITED STATES FOR THE

GOOD OF BOTH COUNTRIES AND THEIR CITIZENS. I NOTE THAT
YOUR CHARTER OF REDEMPTION STRESSES THE PRINCIPLE OF

SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE. I TOO COMMIT MYSELF TO SERVICE
WHICH I HOPE WILL PROMOTE THE BEST INTERESTS OF NOT ONLY
THE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES, BUT ALSO THE CITIZENS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA. THANK YOU. END TEXT.

8. AMBASSADOR BLACK DOES NOT PLAN TO MAKE A FORMAL
ARRIVAL STATEMENT, AND PREFERS THAT HER BRIEF REMARKS ON
ARRIVAL BE RECORDED VERBATIM AT THAT TIME FOR
DISTRIBUTION BY USIS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, TEXT, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE252450
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RAMCGUIRE:JW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740331-0565
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741139/aaaabghy.tel
Line Count: 129
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 AUG 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <13 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TEXT OF AMBASSADOR BLACK'S REMARKS FOR PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, GH, US, (BLACK, SHIRLEY TEMPLE)
To: ACCRA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005